NINTH PLAN (1997-2002) AGREED OUTLAY ON TOURISM-N.E. REGION

(Rs. In lakhs)

| Sl.No. | State | Ninth Plan |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | 2. | 3. |
| 1. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1904.00 |
| 2. | Assam | 2300.00 |
| 3. | Manipur | 900.00 |
| 4. | Meghalaya | 1500.00 |
| 5. | Mizoram | 362.00 |
| 6. | Nagaland | 2400.00 |
| 7. | Tripura | 576.50 |
| 8. | Sikkim | 4000.00 |

(d) Schemes under implementation in various states of the North East for manpower development in the tourism sector include sponsoring of candidates for manager level training at the Institute of Hotel Management, training of tourist guides and training of officers and staff of the tourism departments of the states.

**Assistance to North-Eastern Region for Electrification of villages**

3. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government through their agency, Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) have provided loan assistance to North-Eastern Region/ States for electrification of villages by installing energy meters;

(b) whether loan assistance provided under "Special Loan Portfolio-Capital SL (Meters) Scheme" has been misutilised and not disbursed to the SSI manufacturers of energy meters; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the officers responsible for misutilisation and misappropriation of Government funds?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) provides loan assistance to the State Electricity Boards/State Power Utilities/ State Power Departments for various schemes including procurement and installation of meters. REC sanctioned loan assistance of Rs. 5.16 crore to the Government of Manipur, for procurement and installation of 73000 energy meters. Financial Assistance of Rs. 4.4 crore was released by REC upto 31.3.2001 on the basis of meters procured by the Government of Manipur. REC does not procure meters or any other equipment and, therefore, the release of funds to the suppliers by REC does not arise. The State Electricity Board/State Power Department who procure materials make payments to the suppliers as per terms of their contract.

**Plan for Development of Roads in North Eastern Region**

4. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of action taken by Government to develop the Roads in the North-Eastern Region in connection with comprehensive economic development;

(b) whether the Dhodar Ali, a 17th century road, connects many towns of Assam as well as connects Chansglang and Triap Districts of Arunachal Pradesh and Mon and Mokakchung Districts of Nagaland through link roads; and

(c) whether Government would consider to propose to convert it into a National Highway as an infrastructure for development of vast areas of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Development of State roads is undertaken by the State governments. Where specifically requested or authorised by a State, central agencies like Border Roads Organisation take up development of state roads as well. Union Government supplements the efforts of State Governments. The Department of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India has prepared an Action Plan for development of 12 new National Highways and extension of existing National Highways covering a length of 1962 kilometers at an estimated cost of Rs. 1208.5 crores. Additionally 10 roads covering a total length of 662 kilometers have also been undertaken by North Eastern Council under the 9th Plan.